



# NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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## **FCC CHAIRMAN MICHAEL POWELL'S COMMENTS ON AT&T'S PROPOSAL TO TRANSITION TO FACILITIES-BASED COMPETITION**

Washington, DC – I applaud AT&T's effort to move forward on the contentious issue of access to local phone network elements. It is significant and important for the telecommunications industry that AT&T has signaled that it plans to use more of its own facilities to provide local phone service. In the long run, the transition to facilities-based competition holds out the best promise of real benefit to America's telephone consumers.

Coming on the heels of previously announced market-based agreements between carriers, this clearly shows that AT&T has taken seriously the Commission's call to engage in good faith negotiations over unbundled network elements. My hope is these agreements and proposals will provide the momentum needed to bring a successful conclusion to the negotiations, so that the Commission can turn its attention toward creating an environment that supports the availability of broadband services for all Americans.

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